

I am outraged at news of Sinclair Broadcasting's move to require its 62 stations to pre-empt primetime programming with its 90-minute "news event featuring the topic of Americans held as prisoners of war in Vietnam" designed to smear Kerry and to sway the election. This is not a "documentary" or a "news event." This is craven manipulation of power for political purposes. This is such a blatant and egregious abuse of the PUBLIC's airwaves, that Sinclair should have its license revoked.

Further, this is precisely the type of abuse of power that FCC limits on corporate media market expansion, penetration and consolidation is supposed to prevent. YOU HAVE A MANDATE TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC INTEREST from the likes of Sinclair. YOU HAVE A MANDATE TO PROTECT OUR DEMOCRACY. The founding fathers made clear that without freedom of the press, our democracy would become corrupted. Freedom of the press includes freedom from powerful wealthy corporate interests who use their power to manipulate public opinion for ideological and/or economic purposes.

Stop this required airing by Sinclair. Or force them to move it to an earlier time with EQUAL time given for FREE airing of counter messages.

Thank you for taking immediate action to enforce the letter and spirit of the mandate of the FCC.